

Appl. No. 09/900,087
Amdt. Dated 03/13/2006
Reply to Office action of 12/13/2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2005. The Examiner is thanked for his thorough examination of the subject application. In the Office Action, claims 1-7, 21 and 24-26 have been allowed. No amendments have been made to these claims. Claims 14-20 and 27-34 have been cancelled without prejudice.

For this Amendment, while Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, further discussion as to the grounds for traversing these rejections is moot based on the cancellation of claims 14-20 and 27-34.

Hence, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-7, 21 and 24-26 are in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 13, 2006

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